including Telecom Department stopped operation in Kashmir for some time during the peak years of militancy;

(b) whether Government are aware that all the Central Government Departments stopped operations in Kashmir since 1996, if not, earlier; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, the reasons as to why the Chief General Manager Telecom operates from Jammu all the year round?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Postal Headquarters at Jabalpur

211. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in setting up of Postal Headquarters in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the Headquarters would be set up at Jabalpur itself; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) There is already a Circle Postal Head Quarter for the State of Madhya Pradesh at Bhopal under the charge of Chief Postmaster General, Madhya Pradesh Circle.

(b) There is no proposal for setting up Postal Head Quarter at Jabalpur.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.